



REVIEW OF

COUNCILS, COMMITTEES,
COMMISSIONS AND BOARDS

IMPLEMENTING THE
NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT

COMPILED BY ROSS MELINCHUK
DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC.

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The North American Wetlands Conservation Council

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada)

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Ross Melinchuk

LIST OF ACRONYMS USED

Organizations:

- ASSOC – Associate Member- IAFWA
- BLM – Bureau of Land Management
- CWS – Canadian Wildlife Service
- DU – Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
- DUC – Ducks Unlimited Canada
- IAFWA – International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
- MBCC – Migratory Bird Conservation Commission
- NAWCA – North American Wetlands Conservation Act
- NAWCC – North American Wetlands Conservation Council (USA)
- NAWCCC – North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada)
- NAWMP – North American Waterfowl Management Plan
- NAWWO – North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office
- NRA – National Rifle Association
- NWF – National Wildlife Federation
- PC – Private Consultant
- SEDESOL – Secretaria de Desarrollo Social
- SFWA – State Fish and Wildlife Agency
- TWS – The Wildlife Society
- USAF – United States Air Force
- USFWS – United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- WLFA – Wildlife Legislative Fund of America
- WMI – Wildlife Management Institute

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INTRODUCTION

With passage of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act in December 1989, the infrastructure of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) intensified. To the uninitiated, the administrative relationships were complex and overlapping. For those contemplating NAWCA grant application, the course was uncharted. Clearly, there was a need for a concise desk-top reference outlining the structure and mandate of the various councils, committees, commissions and boards involved in implementation of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

This document was developed as an internal briefing paper for state and provincial fish and wildlife agency directors. Release of an earlier draft prompted a call for wider circulation among other organizations and individuals.

This reference guide is intended to assist existing and potential NAWMP partners understand the intricate, largely ad hoc, organizational structure associated with implementation of the NAWMP and the NAWCA in Canada, the United States and Mexico. Periodic updates of this document are planned given the dynamic nature of these organizations.

MIGRATORY BIRD CONSERVATION COMMISSION (MBCC)

Chair: Bruce Babbitt
Secretary of the Interior

Commission Members:

Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency
The Secretary of Agriculture
Honorable Thad Cochran, Senator from Mississippi
Honorable David H. Pryor, Senator from Arkansas
Honorable John D. Dingell, Representative from Michigan
One Vacant Seat

Ex Officio: Head of the state game department for acquisition in respective state (voting member)

For purposes of voting on projects under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, the Chair of the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (NAWCC) and one other member of the NAWCC (as chosen by the Chair of the NAWCC) are also ex officio members of the MBCC.

Mandate:

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission was established under authority of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act (1929) to approve areas recommended by the Secretary of the Interior for migratory bird refuges and to fix the price at which lands may be purchased or leased.

Under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (1989), the MBCC is further authorized to approve, reject or reorder the list of priority wetlands conservation projects submitted to it by the NAWCC; and further, by approving such projects, provide for federal funding of those projects.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION COUNCIL (NAWCC)

Chair: Matthew B. Connolly, Jr.
Executive Vice President
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Council Membership:

Automatic Members:

John F. Turner - US Fish and Wildlife Service
Amos Eno - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Flyway Representatives (Term expires):

Boyd Gibbons (1993) - California Department
of Fish and Game (Pacific Flyway)
Gary Myers (1993) - Tennessee Wildlife Resources
Agency (Mississippi Flyway)
Bill Montoya (1995) - New Mexico Game and Fish
Department (Central Flyway)
James A. Timmerman (1994) - South Carolina
Wildlife and Marine Resources Department
(Atlantic Flyway)

Non-government Organization Members:

Matthew B. Connolly, Jr. (1993) – Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Mike Dennis (1995) - The Nature Conservancy
Wayne R. LaPierre, Jr. (1995) - National Rifle Association

Alternate Member (to serve in the absence of any member
during Council meetings or in the event of a vacancy
on the Council) – Mike Hayden

Ex Officio Members:

Director General of Natural Resources - Secretaria de
Desarrollo Social (Dr. Exequiel Ezcurra)
Director General - Canadian Wildlife Service
(David Brackett)

Coordinator:

Dr. Robert G. Streeter

Mandate:

As provided in the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) (1989), the Secretary of the Interior appointed the nine-member NAWCC in February 1990 to evaluate wetlands conservation projects according to criteria in the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and to assign priorities for their funding and acquisition. Composed of federal, state and private members, the NAWCC will recommend, in priority order, projects to the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission for federal funding. As provided for in Section 4 (g) of the NAWCA, the Director of the USFWS appointed a Council coordinator who is responsible for facilitating the consideration of wetlands projects by the Council and otherwise assisting the Council in carrying out its responsibilities under the NAWCA. The coordinator and various support personnel are headquartered in the North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office (NAWVO) in Arlington, Virginia.

**NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION COUNCIL
(CANADA) (NAWCCC)**

Chair: David Brackett
Director General - Canadian Wildlife Service

Council Membership:

Membership, as appointed by the Minister of the Environment, includes Canadian members of the NAWMP Committee, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Chairs of the Canadian habitat joint ventures:

Jim McCuaig - Canadian Wildlife Service (NAWMP Committee)
Robert Andrews - Alberta (NAWMP Committee)
Hugh Hunt - Saskatchewan (NAWMP Committee)
Arnold Boer - New Brunswick (NAWMP Committee)
James McLean - Ontario (NAWMP Committee)
Greg Thompson - Canadian Wildlife Service
(NAWMP Committee)
Art Martell - Pacific Coast Joint Venture
Gerald McKeating - Prairie Habitat Joint Venture
George Finney - Eastern Habitat Joint Venture
Stewart Morrison - Ducks Unlimited Canada
David Neave - Wildlife Habitat Canada

Mandate:

The North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) is the senior Canadian body advising the Minister of the Environment on all aspects of coordinating and managing the funding, implementation and evaluation of Canadian habitat joint ventures under the NAWCA. The NAWCC (Canada), accountable to the Minister of the Environment, provides national leadership on all matters related to habitat joint venture coordination, evaluation, financial management, planning, and accountability. The Council is the principal point of contact with the NAWCC for all aspects of US approval and funding of Canadian joint venture projects. The NAWCC (Canada) also serves as the national coordinating committee for the development and implementation of wetland conservation policies and programs on both the national and international fronts.

The NAWMP Office in Ottawa serves the NAWCC (Canada). It is supported by a Secretariat jointly resourced by NAWMP partners including Environment Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada. The NAWCC (Canada) has established the Canadian Wetlands Conservation Task Force reporting to the Council. This Task Force is leading the follow-up to the 1990 Sustaining Wetlands Policy Forum in conjunction with economic sectors in Canada and the National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy.

NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Dr. Robert Streeter, Executive Director
North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office

Greg Thompson, Director
Migratory Birds and Wildlife Conservation
Canadian Wildlife Service

Committee Membership:

6 Canadian and 6 US members, as appointed by the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, respectively.

Canadian Members

Greg Thompson-CWS (Co-Chr)
Jim McCuaig-CWS
Robert Andrews-Alberta
Hugh Hunt-Sask.
Arnold Boer-New Brunswick
James McLean- Ontario

US Members

Bob Streeter-USFWS (Co-Chr)
William Hartwig-USFWS
Red Hunt-California
Richard Hopper-Colorado
Roger Holmes-Minnesota
Ken Wich-New York

Mandate:

The NAWMP Committee, reporting to the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, serves as the international board of directors for the NAWMP. This is a joint body that tracks the status of waterfowl and their habitats and assures that issues pertaining to implementation and evaluation of the NAWMP are brought to the attention of the USFWS and the CWS. It monitors and updates the Plan, its goals, objectives and structure and reviews new proposals and joint ventures. The NAWMP Committee also provides an international forum for considering technical issues affecting the accomplishment of Plan objectives. The North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office (NAWWO) in Washington, DC and the NAWMP Office in Ottawa, Ontario serve as the executive secretariat to the US and Canadian sections of the NAWMP Committee, respectively.

**COMMITTEE ON NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL
MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION**

Chair: Gary Myers
Director
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Vice-Chair: Robert Andrews
Director, Wildlife Branch
Alberta Environmental Protection

Committee Membership:

Charles Allin, RI, SFWA	Richard Hopper, CO,SFWA
Craig Altop, AK,BLM	Douglas, Inkley, DC,NWF
Ken Babcock, MO,SFWA	Lloyd Jones, ND,SFWA
Hugh Bateman, LA,SFWA	Gary Kania, DC,NRA
Jack Capp, AK,USFS	Wayne MacCallum, MA,SFWA
A. Ludlow Clark, VA,USAF	Cal McClusky, DC,BLM
Lorne Colpitts, MB,SFWA	James McCuaig, ONT,CWS
Calvin DuBrock, PA,SFWA	Terry Mansfield, CA,SFWA
Forrest V. Durand, TN, ASSOC	Ross Melinchuk, TN,DU
Richard C. Elden, MI,SFWA	Steve Miller, WI,SFWA
Bob Eriksen, VA,SFWA	James Patterson, ONT,DUC
Robert Feldt, IN,SFWA	L. Whistance Smith,ONT,SFWA
George Finney, ONT,CWS	John Smolko, TN,DU
John Frampton, SC, SFWA	Rollin Sparrowe, DC,WMI
James H. Glass, OH,WLFA	Scott Sutherland, DC,DU
Ron George, TX,SFWA	Gregory Thompson, ONT,CWS
Richard Goulden, MB,SFWA	George Vandel, SD, SFWA
Mickey Heitmeyer, TN, DU	Jeff VerSteege, IL,SFWA
Harry E. Hodgdon, MD,TWS	Alan Wentz, CA,DU
Roger Holmes, MN,SFWA	William Whitman, DE,SFWA

Mandate:

This committee of the IAFWA was established as an ad hoc committee in 1987 at the request of Past-IAFWA President Gary Myers. The purpose of the committee was to assist in the implementation of the NAWMP which had been signed by the governments of Canada and the US in May 1986. Of specific interest was the implementation of First Step NAWMP projects in Canada such as the Quill Lakes project. The committee was charged with identifying ways of obtaining funding for the Plan. It was also to work with the Legislative Committee of the IAFWA to seek Congressional authorization to make the funds available. In this regard, the committee was directed to further develop the funding proposal involving state, private sector, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Canadian funds which would later become known as the First Step Partnership.

It was also the role of this committee to advise the IAFWA on any and all matters pertaining to implementation of the NAWMP. In March 1991, the ad hoc status of this committee was dropped and full committee status granted in light of the continuing role for this committee in NAWMP implementation and funding activities.

US NAWMP IMPLEMENTATION BOARD

Chair: Dr. Rollin Sparrowe
President
Wildlife Management Institute

Board Membership:

The Board is comprised of representatives of
20 national organizations:

American Farmland Trust
American Forest Foundation
Berry B. Brooks Foundation
Ducks Unlimited, Inc.
Federation of State Waterfowl Associations
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Izaak Walton League
Land Trust Alliance
National Association of Conservation Districts
National Audubon Society
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
National Rifle Association
National Wildlife Federation
The Nature Conservancy
North American Wildlife Foundation
Sierra Club
Wildlife Legislative Fund of America
Wildlife Management Institute
The Wildlife Society
World Wildlife Fund
Ex Officio Member: United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Mandate:

The purpose of the US NAWMP Implementation Board is to identify, stimulate, expedite and support actions to advance implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP). Its roles are fourfold:

1. To provide guidance to the US section of the NAWMP Committee on issues important to the successful conduct of the NAWMP;
2. To identify, cultivate and link the various publics to ensure continuing understanding of and support for the NAWMP;
3. To identify and help develop support needed to effectively implement the NAWMP in a timely manner; and
4. To assist in developing private/public partnerships and initiatives to assist in achievement of the goals and objectives of the NAWMP.

In order to accomplish its mandate, the US NAWMP Implementation Board has established three committees: Communications, Fundraising, and Legislative.

FLYWAY COUNCILS

Chairs:

Atlantic Flyway

Charles Fullwood (NC)

Mississippi Flyway

Richard Pierce (OH)

Central Flyway

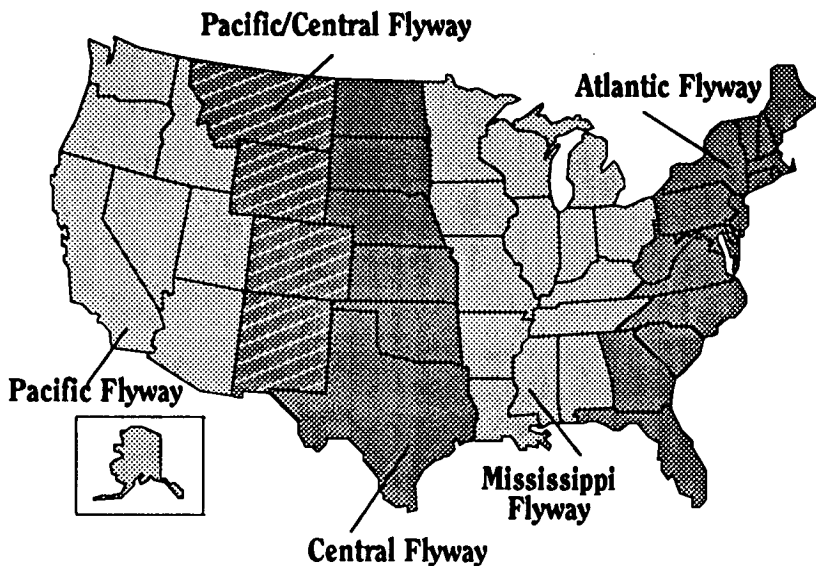
Tom Hinz (MT)

Pacific Flyway

Timothy Provan (UT)

(Note: Chairmanship of each Flyway Council is an annual appointment)

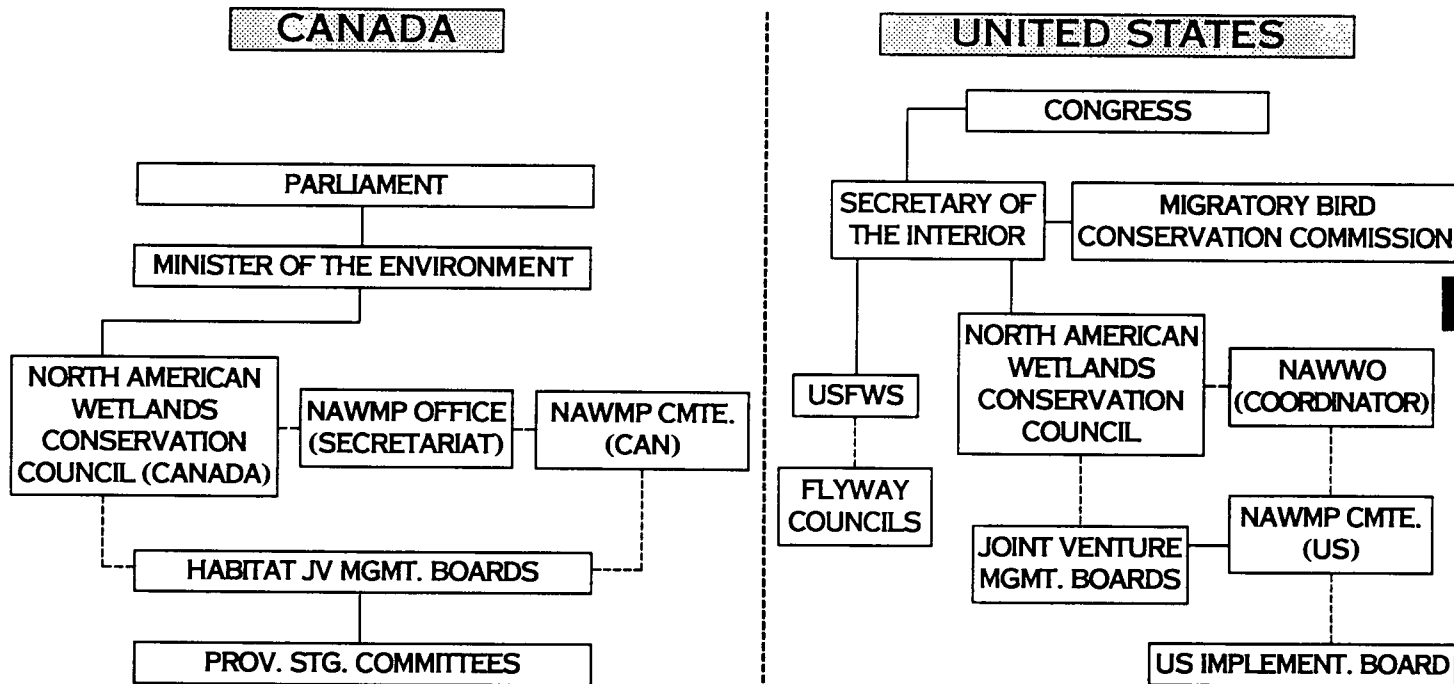
Council Members (States):



Mandate:

It was at the 41st Convention of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in 1951 that the states recognized a need for cooperative management of waterfowl and for a forum that would promote their interests in the regulatory process. A year later, Flyway Councils were established to deal more effectively with migratory waterfowl research, management problems, and programs. Under their bylaws the Flyway Councils have the responsibility to represent their member states on matters regarding cooperative state-federal management, research, and utilization of migratory waterfowl within each of their respective flyways. The USFWS appointed representatives to serve as liaison with the Councils and enlisted representatives from the Councils to serve as consultants on regulatory matters through formal memoranda of understanding. The strength of the Flyway Council structure has grown in stature and influence over the years.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION ACT PROJECT FLOW CHART

